

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 001409 TOSEC 250172

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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APPROVED BY: S/S:RKUCHEL

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 001409 TOSEC 250172

NODIS

FOL REPEAT OF CAIRO 021 TO SECSTATE JAN 03

QTE:

S E C R E T CAIRO 0021

NODIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR AO

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL LETTER ON ANGOLA

REF: STATE 1376

1. ALTHOUGH GOE IS CELEBRATING OFFICIAL HOLIDAY TODAY, I WAS ABLE TO MEET WITH FAHMY THIS MORNING TO GIVE HIM THE PRESIDENTIAL LETTER ADDRESSED TO PRESIDENT SADAT ON ANGOLA. I RECALLED OUR PREVIOUS EXCHANGES ON ANGOLA AND NOTED THAT THE PRESIDENTIAL LETTER UNDERSCORES ONCE AGAIN THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO THE ISSUE AND THE NEED FOR A CONSTRUCTIVE OAU SOLUTION THAT TAKES INTO ACCOUNT ALL FACTIONS. I ASKED FAHMY TO GET THE LETTER TO SADAT SOONEST. HE UNDERTOOK TO HAVE IT TRANSLATED INTO ARABIC AND SEND IT TO THE PRESIDENT AT MIT

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ABUL KOM SOME TIMER LATER TODAY.

2. FAHMY NOTED THAT THE MPLA HAS BEGUN A MAJOR MILITARY OFFENSIVE IN PAST FEW DAYS IN ORDER TO BE IN THE MOST ADVANTAGEOUS POSITION POSSIBLE BY THE TIME OAU MEETING TAKES PLACE. HE ALSO INDICATED THAT GOE HAS RECEIVED WORD THAT SOVIETS ARE STAGING THEIR ASSISTANCE TO MPLA THROUGH BULGARIA. HE WAS NOT SURE HOW IT IS STAGED FROM THERE, BUT OPINED SECOND STAGING AREA MUST BE EITHER ADEN OR LAGOS.

3. FAHMY AGAIN NOTED EMBARRASSMENT WHICH SOUTH AFRICAN INTERVENTION POSES FOR AFRICAN STATES. HE AGREED WITH MY COMMENT THAT CUBANS AND SOVIETS ARE ALSO INVOLVED, BUT NOTED NEITHER OF THESE TWO HAVE CONNOTATION SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE IN AFRICAN EYES. FAHMY THOUGHT THAT IF PRESIDENT FORD WERE TO ISSUE A STATEMENT PUBLICLY CONDEMNING SOUTH AFRICA (BY NAME) AS WELL AS CUBAN AND SOVIET INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA, THIS COULD HAVE A VERY SALUTARY EFFECT AT UPCOMING OAU CONFERENCE. HE URGED THAT HIS IDEA BE SERIOUSLY CONSIDERED. EILTS UNQTE INGERSOLL

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, CAT-B, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE001409
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: S/S:RKUCHEL:AM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: N760001-0047
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760188/aaaadaet.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <29 SEP 2004 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENTIAL LETTER ON ANGOLA
TAGS: PFOR, US, EG, (FORD, GERALD R), (SADAT, ANWAR), (FAHMY, ISMAIL)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006